



Inquiry into annual and financial reports 2024–2025

Answer to question on notice

Asked by: Taimus Werner-Gibblings MLA

Addressed to: Rebecca Minty, Custodial Inspector

Redirected to:

Reference: Inspector of Custodial Services Annual Report p.12

Hearing: 14/11/2025

In relation to: Young people in detention

Question received: 20/11/2025

Answer Due: 1/12/2025

Has there been any impact on your office's workload as a result of raising the age of criminal responsibility? Or is it too early to tell?

Anecdotally, have you seen or heard of any positive impacts on young people in detention now that they are allowed physical contact with their families, such as hugs?

REBECCA MINTY: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

In relation to the work of my office under the *Custodial Inspector Act 2017*, raising the age of criminal responsibility (MACR) has not had a significant impact on our core work. However, as a member of the ACT National Preventive Mechanism (ACT NPM), my office must take a broader interest in the youth justice system as a whole and has contributed to submissions and related work regarding MACR. OICS has received no funding for this additional role and has had to draw from existing resources to carry out and participate in these activities. Furthermore, Intensive Therapy Places, are a 'place of detention' that may be visited by the NPM under s7 of the *Monitoring Places of Detention (Optional Protocol to the Convention Against Torture) Act 2018*. However, the mandate of the ACT NPM cannot fully be realised without additional funding.

Anecdotally, we have heard that the allowing young people physical contact with their families, for example hugs, has had a significantly positive impact on young detained people at Bimberi.

OFFICIAL

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Legal Affairs

Signature:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rebecca Minty', enclosed in a white rectangular box.

Date: 25/11/25

By the ACT Custodial Inspector, Rebecca Minty